

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 HEW-06 OES-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

AGRE-00 /071 W

-----090436Z 122110 /75

R 081131Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6346

UNCLAS TUNIS 2435

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OSCI, TS

SUBJ: PENDING U.S. BAN ON USE OF SACCHARIN IN FOOD AND
BEVERAGES

REF: STATE 63338

1. FDA DECISION TO BAN USE OF SACCHARIN IN U.S. RECEIVED WIDE
PRESS PLAY IN TUNISIA AND IS THEREFORE WELL-KNOWN TO TUNISIAN
MEDICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMMUNITY. FOLLOWING EARLIER U.S.
BAN ON CYCLAMATES, TUNISIA ALSO PROHIBITED USE OF

CYCLAMATES FOR ALL PURPOSES.

2. TO PRESENT NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN BY TUNISIAN AUTHORI-
TIES RE USE OF SACCHARIN, WHICH IS NOW FREELY AVAILABLE IN
TUNISIA. DISTRIBUTION IS NOT CONTROLLED BY THE PHARMACIE CEN-
TRALE. SACCHARIN USE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY CONFINED TO CONSUMER
UTILIZATION AS SWEETENER, AS NO SIZEABLE COMMERCIAL PROCESSING
OF "DIET" FOODS EXISTS IN TUNISIA.

3. WHEN EMBOFF INQUIRED ABOUT USE AND STATUS OF SACCHARIN,
DR. ZOUHEIR KHALLAL, DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL NUTRITION INSTI-
TUTE (NIN), STATED THAT HE WAS MOST INTERESTED IN FINDINGS OF
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U.S. AND CANADIAN INVESTIGATIONS. HE REQUESTED THAT QUANTI-
TATIVE DATA BE MADE AVAILABLE TO HIM, IF POSSIBLE, TO PERMIT
NIN TO FORMULATE REGULATIONS REUSE OF SACCHARIN. NIN HOPES
TO DEVELOP CAPABILITY TO FULFILL ROLE OF FDA FOR TUNISIA.
PROFESSIONAL STAFF AND EQUIPMENT OF NIN IS EXCELLENT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED PLEASE SUPPLY FINDINGS AND SUPPORTING

DATA FROM CANADIAN STUDY ON SACCHARIN FOR TRANSMITTAL TO
KHALLAL.
MULCAHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 08-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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